

EMR adds new shelter to Spalding station

March 22, 2022



A new £39,000 customer shelter at Spalding Station has been officially opened by [East Midlands Railway](#) (EMR).

It was built after gathering local customer feedback, with one of the main goals being for it to be designed in keeping with the rest of the station environment. This includes taking into account the dagger boards on the station canopy.

The new shelter is also able to harvest rainwater, which is good news for the station volunteers who will be able to use this to maintain the nearby flower planters. Other important features include wheelchair accessibility and lighting.

The shelter's components have been considered with renewable and finite resources in mind – with every effort to use materials which could be reused or recycled and have a low end-of-life impact.

Jan Whitbourn, volunteers as a [station adopter](#) at Spalding. Adopters give up their time to help look after their local station. From keeping an eye out for any unusual activity and reporting any faults and issues, to maintaining the gardens and making sure the station is presentable.

Jan said she was delighted with the new shelter. She said: “EMR has gone above and beyond in its efforts to provide us with our wonderful new shelter. It went up professionally and has made a massive difference to us all – exceeding our expectations.

“We are really impressed in how the team from EMR researched what needed doing and made every effort to determine the exact feature and options that customers most wanted.

“The watering facility, in particular, is going to be very useful and is going to make our job of watering the hundreds of plants which we put in last year a lot easier. After seven weeks with no rain, it became a tedious job fetching water from across the platforms.”

Fellow volunteer David Bradley was also impressed by the new shelter.

He said: “It is way beyond our expectations and is a great addition to the station. It perfectly complements the new lifts and fits in well with the rest of the station.”

Station adopter, and councillor for South Holland District Council, Elizabeth Sneath, said: “I’m delighted to see the new shelter is now installed, it will make waiting for a train so much more comfortable. The integral water harvesting system will be such a great boon to the station adopters too, as last year the volunteers had to carry many buckets of water over the bridge to the new plants.”

Lisa Angus, transition and projects director at EMR, said: “In choosing the sustainable materials, features, and design of the shelter, we made sure to listen to local customers and its great news to hear they are happy with the final product.

“The new shelter fits in well with the existing architectural features of the station and the built in water harvester will enable our Station Adopters to keep up their great work in looking after the flower beds at the station.”